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AGRIVIEW

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VOLUME 8

Meeting the needs of global food demand

page 10

FORAGE, FEED AND CUSTOM SERVICE LISTING PAGE 7

INFLUENZA VACCINATION PAGE 9

INTERNATIONAL MARKET DEVELOPMENT PAGE 13

Saskatchewan Agriculture

Minister's Message

With harvest wrapped up and the year drawing to an end, I find myself thinking of the past five years and the many accomplishments we've shared with the farmers and ranchers of Saskatchewan.

We improved our extension services by opening three new regional offices and seven new satellite offices to serve the farmers where they need it most: close to their fields. We set up a Grain Bag Recycling Program and a Livestock Traceability Rebate to encourage sustainability in the industry. We launched the Crown Land Sale Program to put land back in the hands of producers and invested significant funds into water infrastructure.

We've also focused on the future of the industry by introducing Saskatchewan Agriculture Student Scholarship that encourages high-school students to pursue an agriculture-related field of study. We have also provided funding for farm education and safety, for the Saskatchewan Young Ag-Entrepreneurs and for an agricultural exhibit at the Saskatchewan Science Centre. This summer we also announced the International Market Development Program to help our producers, processors and exporters access emerging trading partners around the world.

We've also made record investments into research and innovation over the past five years, including $10 million announced by Premier Wall earlier this year for wheat research. Since 2008, we've committed more than $52 million into research through the Agriculture Development Fund.

I am proud to be a part of the agriculture industry of this province, a province that has achieved $10 billion in agri-food exports for the first time in its history, more than either Alberta or Ontario. I am proud of this government's five years of commitment to rural Saskatchewan and as we continue to grow the industry together, I am excited about the future opportunities of agriculture in this province.

Sincerely,

Lyle Stewart

STORY SNAPSHOTS

Green Trade conference

Heifer development workshops

Transporting livestock

2012 Agribition

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CROPS 4

LIVESTOCK 6

AGRICULTURE AWARENESS 10

RESEARCH 11

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES 12

EVENTS CALENDAR 16

Cover: Harvesting at dusk. *Photo: Viterra*

Saskatchewan Agriculture

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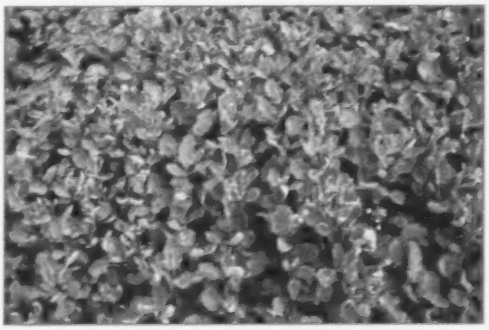
To view this publication online, visit www.agriculture.gov.sk.ca/programs-services.

Sulphur: how important is it?

by Kim Stonehouse, M.Sc. PAg
Regional Crops Specialist, Tisdale
Regional Services Branch

Canola has one of the largest requirements for sulphur of all the annual crops grown in Saskatchewan. With shortened rotations and increased nitrogen applications, soil reserves of sulphur may be depleted more rapidly, potentially leading to sulphur deficiencies. Sulphur is not translocated within plants, so a supply of plant-available sulphur must be available until the canola pods have finished filling with seed. Lack of sulphur at any stage of growth can be very detrimental to canola yields.



It's important to recognize and correct sulphur deficiencies early.

It is important to recognize and correct sulphur deficiencies early. The ratio of nitrogen to sulphur required for a canola crops is about five to one. If this ratio is not maintained, any increased nitrogen applications can actually have a negative impact on yield.

Sulphur deficiencies can be corrected during the growing season. Research by Dr. Sukhdev Malhi, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Melfort, has shown that the majority of yield can be recovered if plant-available sulphur is broadcast any time up until bolting and, to a lesser extent, during early flowering.

With the depletion of soil sulphur reserves, there is an increased reliance on sulphur fertilizers. However, not all sulphur fertilizers are created equal. Research has shown that sulphate-S fertilizers applied at seeding give the best response when compared to elemental-S fertilizers that are much less effective in the year of application. This is because elemental-S fertilizers must be converted by microorganisms in the soil into a plant-available form. This process takes time and can be somewhat inconsistent, resulting in fields that remain partially or entirely deficient in sulphur.

An option for fields that have had sulphur reserves depleted may be to broadcast elemental-S in the fall and apply sulphate-S at seeding. This will supply the plants with the correct amount of plant-available sulphate during the growing season as well as replenish sulphur reserves that will then be available for future years when there is exceptional growth potential.

Finally, in the spring of 2012, sulphate-S supplies were reported to be low, making it difficult to obtain. Depending on the demand, there is some potential for these supplies to be in short supply again in 2013. Early booking of sulphate-S may help to ensure it will be available when needed.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Contact Kim Stonehouse, Regional Crops Specialist, Tisdale, at (306) 878-8807 or at kim.stonehouse@gov.sk.ca; or
- Phone the Agriculture Knowledge Centre at 1-866-457-2377.

FALL PRUNING AND ORCHARD MAINTENANCE

by Forrest Scharf, BA, BSA, AAg
Provincial Specialist, Fruit Crops
Crops Branch

There are usually damaged branches, diseased tissues, or pest symptoms that fruit growers become aware of during harvest, but cannot deal with at that time. If heavy pruning is employed directly after harvest but before plants have hardened down, stimulation of new growth can result, making plants more susceptible to winter damage. Pruning should be done in mid-to-late fall when plants have been weaned off water and fertilizers and have "hardened down" for winter. When leaves have dropped, knowing what or where to prune is also easier because branches are more visible.

Rodent girdling of an apple stem that occurred over winter in 2010/2011.

Diseased tissues should always be removed as soon as possible so disease spread is minimized. In order to cut out disease infections, growers should remove tissue several inches beyond where infections appear to end, and always sterilize cutting tools between cuts. Branches that are physically damaged should be removed if their structural integrity is lost, and branches that cross over others should also be removed. General pruning information is available by viewing the video at www.agriculture.gov.sk.ca/orchardvideos.

Pest overwintering within orchards can cause further damage to plants. If weeds, leaf litter and trash are not removed from within orchard rows, pests will find hospitable environments and successfully overwinter. Insects and disease spores obtain enough insulation within weed and trash to perpetuate their life cycles, especially if weeds act as a snow trap and the snow provides additional insulation from harsh winter conditions. Mice and other rodents wintering in the orchard can chew through tree bark. If they chew around an entire stem (girdling it) they destroy the vascular flow from the roots and kill the top growth. Mice bait stations and poisons evenly placed throughout orchards in mid-to-late fall will reduce rodent populations. Weed and other refuse should be removed from within the orchard rows so that disease and insect life cycles are interrupted as much as possible, and so mice and other rodents are exposed.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Contact Forrest Scharf, Provincial Specialist, Fruit Crops at (306) 787-0428.

Horticulture takes spotlight this November

by Glen Sweetman, PAg
Provincial Specialist, Greenhouse and Nursery Crops
Crops Branch

Greenhouse and vegetable production are the focus in Saskatchewan this November, with two conferences happening in Saskatoon. The timing is right; the province's farmers are growing high quality produce to meet a growing consumer demand.

The Northern Greenhouse Conference is themed "Northern Food Security: The Greenhouse Solution." The workshop will highlight the socio-economic aspects of sustainable northern greenhouses and the technical aspects of northern greenhouse design.

The Saskatchewan Green Trades Conference, a joint conference of the Saskatchewan Greenhouse Growers Association and the Saskatchewan Vegetable Growers Association, boasts four concurrent sessions and a tradeshow for commercial producers. The conference will kick-off with two workshops on the fundamentals of greenhouse production and business management. The main conference will feature sessions on greenhouse vegetables, field vegetables, bedding plant production and garden centre management.

Whether you are a new grower wanting to get into the industry or a seasoned grower looking for quality information, the greenhouse conferences cover a range of topics. From the fundamentals, challenges, and opportunities, to new technologies, research, management and pests, the conferences will cover many aspects of the industry. Field vegetable and market gardening talks will focus on adding value to produce through processing or packaging. Other presentations will focus on the production of high quality produce. Attendees will also be provided with valuable opportunities to discuss pest and other production issues, with emphasis on issues that were prevalent in 2012.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- **Northern Food Security: The Greenhouse Solution workshop**
  Nov. 7-8, 2012 is at the Travelodge, Saskatoon.
  Visit http://arsmithscience.usask.ca/engl.
- **Green Trades Conference**
  Nov. 8-10, 2012 at the Saskatoon Inn, Saskatoon.
  Visit www.saskgreentrades.com.

WATER USE EFFICIENCY AND CROP ROTATION

by Shannon Chant, MSc., PAg
Regional Crops Specialist, Swift Current
Regional Services Branch

Depending on your location in Saskatchewan, the amount of water available at seeding varies. Crops differ in their water use efficiency and knowing this can help select the right crop for the field conditions.

The Semi-Arid Prairie Agricultural Research Centre (SPARC) in Swift Current recently conducted a study comparing the water use efficiency and water left after harvest of pea, desi chickpea and kabuli chickpea crops. They found that peas had the highest water use efficiency and left the most water in the soil after the crop was harvested. Desi chickpeas had the second highest water use efficiency and moisture left over after harvest, followed by kabuli chickpeas. Another study conducted over three years by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and the University of Manitoba looked at the water use of all crops (cereals, oilseeds and pulses) commonly grown in the Prairie provinces (Table 1). This study also showed that peas had the highest water use efficiency, followed by wheat, chickpeas, *Brassica rapa* (Polish) canola, lentils, *Brassica napus* (Argentine) canola and finally mustard. In terms of the total amount of water used during the growing season, the biggest consumer was *Brassica napus* (Argentine) canola, followed by mustard, wheat, chickpeas, peas, *Brassica rapa* (Polish) canola and lentils.

Depending on environmental conditions, it may make sense for a producer to alternate a high water-use crop with a low water-use crop. The chart below will help producers select the crop that is appropriate for each year and each field.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Contact your local Regional Cops Specialist, or
- Call the Agriculture Knowledge Centre at 1-866-457-2377.

Table 1. Water Use Efficiency (WUE; pounds of seed yield per inch of moisture), Seed Yield (pounds per acre) and Water Use (inches) of Crops Commonly Grown in the Prairie Provinces - 1996-1998.

Crop	WUE (lbs/inches)	Seed Yield (lbs/ac)	Water Use (inches)
Field pea	253	3141	12.63
Wheat	193	2551	13.18
Chickpea	167	2132	12.67
Brassica rapa canola	143	1776	12.49
Lentil	128	1636	12.44
Brassica napus canola	117	1593	13.51
Mustard	115	1523	13.49

Based on: Canola Council of Canada, Canola Production Manual, Chapter 4 - Effects of Moisture, Page 10.

Giving Saskatchewan wheat and barley a voice

by Corey Ruud
Acting General Manager
Agri-Food Council

Producer steering committees are working to form Saskatchewan Wheat and Barley Development Commissions to give our province's wheat and barley producers a greater voice in their industry.

Other agricultural commissions in Saskatchewan (for crops like canola or pulses, among many others) develop new opportunities for producers. They bring greater focus and direction to varietal research, improve and refine agronomic practices and help develop domestic and export markets for Saskatchewan production; giving Saskatchewan producers greater profits in today's marketplace.

Despite the fact that wheat (spring and winter) is one of Saskatchewan's biggest crops, only winter wheat (less than five per cent of the wheat production) is represented by an agricultural commission. In the case of barley, there is no current commission. That is why, when the Canadian Wheat Board's role of funding research on behalf of farmers ended, the federal government transferred responsibility to the Alberta Barley Commission on an interim basis until other systems are set up.

At a meeting sponsored by the Provincial Government on June 22, 2012, a wide cross-section of Saskatchewan producer groups, associations and existing commissions met to determine if there was interest and merit in the establishment of a commission or commissions for wheat and barley development in the province.

The consensus at the meeting was that Saskatchewan needs its own representation. Farm leaders decided the success of the province's existing crop commissions demonstrate the merits of such an approach and that producers needed to move forward with establishment plans for wheat and barley commissions. Winter wheat will continue to be represented by the Saskatchewan Winter Cereals Development Commission.

Like other Saskatchewan agricultural commissions, the proposed Saskatchewan wheat and barley commissions will generate their funding through check-off dollars. The check-offs, similar to other provincial commissions, would be deducted at the point of sale. The check-offs would be refundable, ensuring accountability to producers for their investment in the commissions.

On October 12, 2012, at the request of farm leaders, Agriculture Minister Lyle Stewart announced the formation of producer steering committees for both wheat and barley. The steering committees are tasked with developing establishment plans for the commissions. Once developed, the plans will be shared with producers to gain input and to gauge support for the establishment of wheat and barley commissions in the province.

Together wheat and barley represent close to one-third of the annual crop acreage in the province. Saskatchewan also accounts for an average of 50 per cent of Western Canada's wheat acreage (11.5 million acres) and 35 per cent of its barley acreage (3 million acres).

WINTER FEEDING ON PERENNIAL PASTURE

by Lorne Klein
Regional Forage Specialist, Weyburn
Regional Services Branch

At what location and density will your beef cows deposit their manure and urine this winter? Research at the Western Beef Development Centre (WBDC) has shown that as much as 34 per cent of the original nitrogen of feed can be captured or recycled, when feed or grazing is managed correctly. You will capture as little as one per cent when you don't.

The research compared winter feeding extensively on perennial pasture to winter feeding intensively in a corral. The corral manure was spread on pasture the following summer. Significant economic and environmental advantages to feeding on perennial pasture were found. Many producers have experienced these advantages on their own operations.

A critical issue is the feeding density. This must not be excessive, so the nutrients from the manure and urine enhance the vegetation rather than kill it. Generally, feed at a density of 1000 cow days/acre or less. Ensure that manure and urine is spread uniformly over the feeding area as much as possible.

The ideal scenario is to feed:

- On low fertility soil to get a relatively high yield response in the following crop;
- On perennial forage containing a rhizomatous grass (smooth brome, quack grass) that can tolerate the winter traffic and thick litter layer if feed is left behind;
- On perennial forage that normally dries the soil profile in fall and enables a greater percentage of the spring snow melt carrying nutrients to infiltrate into the soil;
- On land where the water runoff is contained instead of drained into creeks and rivers; and
- Close to or at the feed source to reduce or eliminate the need for handling and transporting the feed.

Feeding or grazing correctly on the landscape in winter can capture and retain more nutrients in the soil, reduce the need for machinery and diesel fuel, reduce the need for commercial fertilizer and eliminate manure hauling.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Contact your nearest Regional Forage Specialist, or
- Phone the Agriculture Knowledge Centre at 1-866-457-2377.

Vegetation response in a pasture with proper bale grazing density.

Forage, Feed and Custom Service Listing

by Murray Feist, PAg, MSc
Ruminant Nutrition Specialist
Agriculture Knowledge Centre

The Forage, Feed and Custom Service Listing is a web-based, interactive service which links buyers and sellers. The site gives producers the opportunity to list feed products and custom services for sale or to view products that others have listed. It features a search function, including an interactive map that provides search returns by rural municipality. Links to other regions such as Montana, North Dakota, Alberta, Manitoba and Ontario are also available.

One of the most popular features of the listing service is the compiled asking price report. Each week, the listing provides current, up-to-date pricing information on the lowest, highest and average asking prices for forages and feed grains listed. Feeds are grouped into categories by type of feed; for example, alfalfa is not priced with greenfeed, and straw and barley are not priced with wheat. A summary report can be generated online or can be printed and faxed out from the Agriculture Knowledge Centre.

Registration with the Forage, Feed and Custom Listing Service is free and can be done either online or by contacting a resource agent with the Agriculture Knowledge Centre at 1-866-457-2377. New users must register with the service before advertisements can be posted. If you are an existing user and have forgotten your username and/or password, please contact the Agriculture Knowledge Centre before creating a new account.

To find the Listing Service online, point your Internet browser to
www.agriculture.gov.sk.ca/FeedForageListing

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Phone the Agriculture Knowledge Centre at 1-866-457-2377; or
- Visit your nearest Regional Office.

WINTER GRAZING – ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

by Patrick Mooleki, PhD, PAg
Soil/Nutrient Management Specialist
Agriculture Knowledge Centre

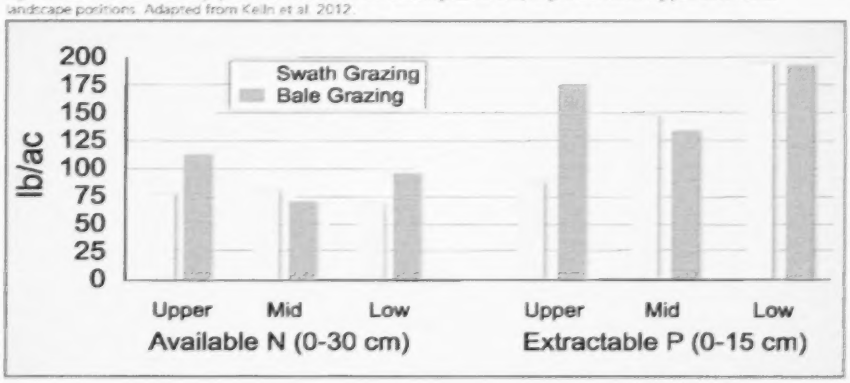
Winter grazing has been shown to enhance nutrient availability as well as forage and pasture productivity. This is as a result of increased deposition of fresh manure and urine directly onto the field, thus saving the producer time, money and machinery wear as compared to in-yard winter feeding systems.

The two nutrients that are better conserved and distributed in winter grazing systems are nitrogen (N) and phosphorus (P). Feedlot cattle manure particularly tends to be high in P and low in N. This is due to the loss of inorganic N during manure storage and a high content of bedding straw. However, fresh manure and urine contain a significant amount of N as well as P.

With increasing levels of available nutrients comes the potential of environmental pollution. A recent study showed elevated levels of orthophosphate–P and ammonium-N in snowmelt from winter grazing sites as compared to snowmelt from control watersheds. Notwithstanding the elevated levels of N and P in snowmelt, inorganic N and water extractable P in the soil the following spring were not different between winter grazing and control sites. This was attributed to a rapid early spring uptake by the forage crop.

A recent study near Lanigan SK, showed that available N at 0-30 cm soil depth was higher on low and upper slopes under bale grazing than under swath grazing (Fig. 1). Differences in extractable P were only observed on upper slopes. This may be attributed to the importation of biomass (bales) onto areas that would normally produce low biomass. There is potential of P movement to low slopes under either system as the amount of biomass produced is higher. Also, low areas inherently have good fertility, moisture and higher productivity.

Fig. 1. Effect of winter feeding system on available N and exchangeable P in spring of the following year in different landscape positions. Adapted from Kelln et al. 2012.



Therefore, it is important to take into account the slope of the landscape and the winter grazing system when planning in-field wintering. Avoid areas where N and P may accumulate (e.g. low areas) or be picked up by snowmelt and transported to water bodies.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Contact the Agriculture Knowledge Centre at 1-866-457-2377.

Low stress cattle handling

by Regional Services Branch

The concept of low-stress cattle handling refers to both the stress of the cattle and the stress of the handler. When both the handler and the livestock are calm and methodical, the entire process is safe and quick.

The ease of cattle handling depends on the type of livestock and the previous handling experience of the livestock. For example, a herd that is familiar with the handlers, horses or ATVs, will respond more calmly, than a herd that may rarely see people or equipment. Younger animals and certain breeds may be more excitable.

Cattle tend to move in the direction they are facing. An easy way to get a herd's attention is to enter the corral through the gate you want them to exit. As you enter the corral or pen, the cattle turn to look at you and face the gate. They will naturally move towards it when pressured from the correct point of balance.

A good portion of low-stress cattle handling techniques are based on using livestock's natural point of balance and the pressure of proximity. The point of balance refers to an imaginary line separating the front/back and left/right of the animal. Pressure of proximity is essentially the movement of an animal as it is being approached. On calm animals, using their natural point of balance and pressuring the animal by moving toward them, will encourage livestock to move in the wanted direction. It is also important to reduce distractions, such as noise and movement, so the animals can focus their attention on the handler.

An understanding of the animals' reaction and behaviour will result in increased safety for both the workers and the animals.

There are training clinics and websites available for information about low stress cattle handling. To view a training video, please go to *Low-Stress Cattle Handling – For Productivity and Safety* at [illegible]. The Farm Animal Council of Saskatchewan (FACS) also has valuable information on their website at www.facs.sk.ca.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Contact the Agriculture Health and Safety Network at (306) 966-6644; or
- Visit [illegible].

BREEDING FOR PROFIT WORKSHOPS - HEIFER DEVELOPMENT

by Leah Clark, BSc.
Regional Livestock Specialist, Weyburn
Regional Services Branch

The Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture is pleased to present the third annual Heifer Development Workshops. This year's workshops will take place in Maple Creek and Alameda.

For the last two years, the Ministry of Agriculture has put together Heifer Development Workshops in different locations throughout the province. These workshops are designed to help producers make informed management decisions when it comes to building their herds with quality animals. This year's workshops will include information from industry experts. The workshops will cover a variety of topics such as, understanding the estrous cycle, heifer nutrition, comparing artificial insemination to natural service, heifer conformation and vaccination.

WORKSHOP INFORMATION

Alameda Auction Mart
Alameda, Sask
December 7, 2012
12:30 to 5 p.m.

Cowtown Livestock Exchange
Maple Creek, Sask
December 8, 2012
12:30 to 5 p.m.

To register, please contact the Agriculture Knowledge Center at 1-866-457-2377 by December 3, 2012. The cost of the workshop is $40, which includes a steak supper following the workshop.

A completed livestock manifest is required to transport all livestock

by Cam Wilk, PAg
Provincial Manager, Field Services
Livestock Branch

The *Livestock Inspection and Transportation Regulations* require owners, or their agents, to have in their possession a completed livestock manifest before transporting livestock. These regulations apply to all livestock including cattle, horses, sheep, goats, swine, bison and any hybrid of these species.

Highway Traffic Patrol officers will enforce the regulations and issue fines for transporting livestock without a manifest.

A properly completed manifest helps identify the owner of the livestock and ensures accuracy for processing producer payments, or finance payment information, if required.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
- Visit www.agriculture.gov.sk.ca.

INFLUENZA VACCINATION PROTECTS ANIMAL AND HUMAN HEALTH

by Dr. Wendy Wilkins, DVM, PhD
Disease Surveillance Veterinarian
Livestock Branch

Many of us understand that getting the "flu" or influenza shot each fall can help to protect ourselves and our families from influenza. But did you know that your influenza shot can help protect animal health as well?

Some influenza viruses can be transmitted between people and animals, and between different species of animals. By getting the seasonal influenza shot, you can help reduce the transmission of influenza viruses between people and animals.

Pigs are particularly susceptible to catching influenza viruses from people, and sometimes these viruses can pass back and forth between pigs and people, as happened with the H1N1 virus in 2009. Recently in the USA, a new influenza virus (H3N2v) has been causing illness in people who have been in close contact with infected pigs. In most cases, people have contracted the virus from pigs at agriculture shows and fairs. So far, it has been found in more than 10 states with illness confirmed in at least 300 people. This particular flu virus rarely spreads from person to person.

The Public Health Agency of Canada recommends that all Canadians over the age of six months get the seasonal influenza shot. This offers the best protection against a variety of strains of influenza viruses. It can help protect everyone involved in the food production system, including:

- producers and their families
- farm workers
- animal science students
- veterinarians
- farm service personnel, including feed truck drivers and vaccination and insemination crews
- other people visiting livestock operations

Even if you got the shot last year, you should get it again this year. Getting the influenza shot every year is important because the vaccine is updated each year to protect against the most current influenza virus strains.

Anyone who has influenza-like symptoms, such as fever, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, headaches, body aches, chills and fatigue should always avoid contact with livestock. Producers can also protect their animals by following sound biosecurity practices, including controlling movements of people, animals, equipment and vehicles on their property, observing animals daily for signs of disease and calling a veterinarian if animals appear to be sick.

MORE INFORMATION
- Visit www.health.gov.sk.ca/influenza-flu; or
- Visit www.health.gov.sk.ca/influenza-vaccine-fact-sheet.

Providing solutions to growing global food demand

The global population is estimated to be growing by about 90 million people annually. According to the United Nations, global food demand is expected to double by 2050. Currently, nearly 870 million people are undernourished. Where will all the extra food come from?

Feeding our expanding population is – and will continue to be – one of the most essential issues of our time. Saskatchewan's agriculture industry is positioned to be a leader in providing solutions to help meet the growing demand for food.

Our farmers and ranchers lead an industry that has tripled the yield of food production in the past century without cultivating significantly more land. A farmer in 1900 produced enough food to feed 10 people, while today's farmer feeds more than 120.

Advancements in research and biotechnology are helping farmers and ranchers become experts at producing more food with less. Today, farmers use less water, and cause less soil disturbance. For example, Saskatchewan farmers have pioneered the production of crops using conservation tillage strategies using low- or no-till crop production systems that conserve moisture and prevent soil erosion.

Saskatchewan is a major contributor to world-class crop research and development efforts that are providing innovative ways to increase production. Plant breeding programs like those at the Crop Development Centre (CDC) are breeding improved crop varieties that boost plant health and yield. The CDC is an example of a partnership between public and private agencies to move the industry forward.

Since 1971, the CDC has released nearly 300 commercial crop varieties. Scientists run independent research programs while also training new scientists, with the objective of genetically improving many crops – wheat, barley, canary seed, lentils, flax, oats, and more.

Plant biotechnology creates many benefits for agriculture and the environment. For example, herbicide tolerant canola allows farmers to achieve better weed control while adopting soil conservation strategies. Between 2000 and 2009, Canadian canola yields increased 20 per cent, largely due to biotechnology improvements.

Advancements in crop yield, nutrient quality, and pest resistance, supported by government and industry, will help Saskatchewan farmers and ranchers continue to boost their contribution to the production of a safe, healthy food supply to satisfy growing global demand. That's a story worth sharing.

Send your good news story about the important role of agriculture in Saskatchewan to [redacted]

CELEBRATING THE STEWARDS OF OUR RURAL ENVIRONMENT

Saskatchewan producers are the stewards of our environment and they value this important role. They use field management practices that care for soil, water and ecology with an interest in sustaining the productivity of our rural landscape for future generations.

Protecting the environment is a primary concern not only for producers, but also government, industry and researchers. To preserve the environment, farmers and ranchers use sound management practices and rely on innovative technology to support them.

Together, farmers and agri-businesses have pioneered conservation tillage practices to increase production while supporting land stewardship. For example, the Prairie Agriculture Machinery Institute (PAMI) provides independent, third-party farm equipment evaluation to help support the development of non-traditional farming practices.

PAMI's multi-year research projects have investigated areas such as seed and fertilizer placement, packing, row spacing, evaluation of side-band openers, and fertilizer application rates. The positive results contribute to the development of new technology and the improvement of current growing systems.

Eco-friendly zero-till crop production allows growers to reduce inputs and the number of field passes. The practice has proven – especially in dry years – to significantly reduce wind-born soil erosion. Stubble is left standing to reduce water evaporation, thus conserving soil moisture and contributing to higher yields.

GPS technology is another advancement helping growers protect the environment through reduced fuel, fertilizer and herbicide use. With GPS and remote sensing technology, growers are more precise in the application of products to manage pests and soil deficiencies.

Livestock producers also contribute to environmental stewardship. For example, pasture management plans help them use land more effectively. As well, changes to winter feeding practices, such as bale or swath grazing, is a way for producers to reduce nutrient load while preserving and replenishing the soil.

Impacts of midge on wheat varietal blends

Wheat midge can be a significant problem for western Canadian wheat producers. The insect larva feeds on developing wheat kernels, causing them to shrivel, crack and deform. The shriveled kernels are lost production; the damaged kernels lower the crop's grade and produce poor quality flour. A serious midge outbreak in 2006 cost Canadian Western Red Spring wheat producers roughly $19 million in lost yield and $21 million in down-grading.

Fortunately, scientists have discovered a single gene (Sm1) in a soft winter wheat variety that gives the plant tolerance to wheat midge. Plant breeders have incorporated this gene into spring wheat and have produced a number of tolerant varieties, some of which have already been registered. Since single-gene resistance is usually short-lived, these varieties will be sold blended with a susceptible variety as an in-crop refuge to extend the effectiveness of the Sm1 gene as long as possible. With a susceptible variety included in the varietal blend, the selection pressure for midge that can survive Sm1 will be reduced.

As these blends become commercially available, seed companies and regulatory agencies like the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, need to be assured that the current nine-to-one ratio of tolerant to susceptible varieties will prevent the midge from developing resistance to the gene, particularly given producers' inclination to save seed for the next year's crop. Currently, the Midge Tolerant Wheat Stewardship Team allows only one year of farm-saved seed.

With the financial support of the Ministry's Agriculture Development Fund (ADF), Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada researchers in Melfort, Swift Current and Winnipeg set out to further investigate best management practices for midge tolerant wheat. They also wanted to determine the agronomic value of midge tolerance and protection of market grade, and whether this new tolerance had any impact on the quality of the flour.

From 2007 to 2010, the AAFC researchers conducted trials in Brandon, Melfort, Indian Head, Regina, Saskatoon, Swift Current, Lethbridge and Lacombe to study the effect of the Sm1 gene on agronomics and grade protection. They planted four different tolerant blends and four popular susceptible cultivars for comparison. From 2008 to 2010, they established a separate series of plots using farm-saved seed to mimic the genetic drift and assess the impact of planting the previous year's seed.

Each year, the researchers measured plant height, heading, maturity, lodging and seed yield to determine whether the tolerant wheat varieties performed better than the susceptible ones. Wheat heads were collected to assess midge damage on the kernels. The researchers recorded the number of seeds per spike, seed weight, the number of damaged seeds and the proportion of damaged seeds that was still harvestable.

While there was significant variation between the different sites and over the four years, the data showed that the tolerant blends had less midge damage to the kernels than the susceptible cultivars. The different blends varied in their effectiveness, but all blends were better than the susceptible controls. The varietal blends have different agronomic attributes that will fit different production conditions.

The researchers discovered that the Sm1 gene does not technically make wheat "tolerant" to wheat midge. Instead of recovering from the effects of midge feeding with no loss of yield (i.e. "tolerance"), Sm1 wheat actually kills the larva but sustains damage. The researchers also discovered that one of the susceptible varieties grown (Waskada) was actually partially resistant to wheat midge in that adult female midge prefer to lay their eggs on other wheat varieties.

To the consumer, however, midge resistance is less important than flour quality. Midge-damaged kernels produce lower quality flour with less dough strength. Tests showed that the varietal blends tended to produce a better quality of flour than the susceptible comparison cultivars, under midge pressure. Preliminary studies over two years showed that midge damage of up to 20 per cent in the varietal blends did not affect kernel hardness, kernel and flour redness or dough strength.

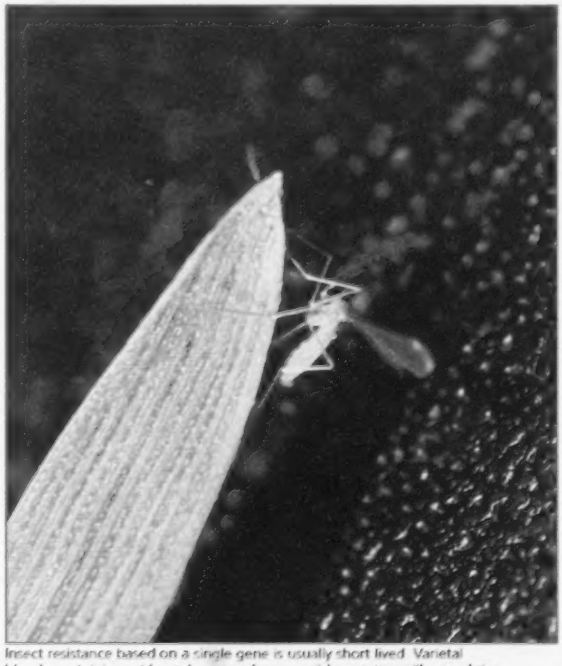
The findings from this research are incredibly valuable and will be the stepping stones for conducting further research in determining the effectiveness of varietal blends in combating wheat midge infestations in Western Canada.

The Agriculture Development Fund provides funding to institutions, companies and industry organizations to help them carry out research, development and value-added activities in the agriculture and agri-food sector. The results produce new knowledge, information and choices in technologies, techniques and varieties for farmers, ranchers, processors and input suppliers, to improve the competitiveness of Saskatchewan's agriculture sector.

In 2012, the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture committed $11.8 million in new funding for 60 ADF research projects.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Visit the Saskatchewan Agriculture research reports page at www.agriculture.gov.sk.ca/ADF/search and reference report number (#20070092); or
- Contact Cecil Vera of Melfort Research Centre by phone at (306)752- 2776 extension 229 or email at cecil.vera@agr.gc.ca; or
- Visit www.midgetolerantwheat.ca; or
- Reference the Ministry publication *Varieties of Grain Crops 2012*.



Insect resistance based on a single gene is usually short lived. Varietal blends containing midge tolerant and susceptible varieties will extend the effectiveness of the Sm1 wheat gene for as long as possible.

Growing Forward

SCIC accepting 2012 AgriStability applications

The Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation (SCIC) is accepting AgriStability applications for the 2012 program year. The opportunity to file early is available to participating farming and ranching operations that have a non-calendar year end, and with a fiscal year-end occurring after July 1, 2012. Individual producers (sole proprietors) enrolled in the program can begin filing their program forms after December 31, 2012, when their fiscal year is complete.

Those participants who may be filing early should be aware of some changes to the codes used when completing the program forms. As part of the preparation for the 2012 program year, significant changes were made to the commodity codes used for the 2012 AgriStability Program. Commodity codes are used when completing AgriStability Program forms to identify sales and purchases of specific commodities. Using the correct codes when completing program forms can help avoid unnecessary delays in processing applications.

The changes to the commodity codes are part of SCIC's ongoing effort to align the AgriStability Program with producers' business practices and to remove duplicate or redundant codes. The change in the marketing of western Canadian wheat and barley also prompted some of these code changes.

The entire updated code list for the 2012 program year can be found in SCIC's 2012 Commodity Code Guide at www.saskcropinsurance.com/agristability/publications.

FOR MORE INFORMATION about the changes in commodity codes for 2012 or about completing and submitting 2012 program forms:

- Visit any of the 21 Crop Insurance offices across the province;
- Go online to www.saskcropinsurance.com; or
- Contact the AgriStability Call Centre at 1-866-270-8450.

REGISTER YOUR POST HARVEST CROP INSURANCE CLAIM

For many, crops are in the bin. Before you set your sights on marketing your grains, oilseeds and pulses, or moving them to the elevator, please consider your Crop Insurance contract.

Report all harvested production to the Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation (SCIC). If you are near or below your production guarantee, a post-harvest claim can be registered. To do so, check the box at the bottom of your completed Production Declaration and submit it to SCIC or simply call your local Crop Insurance office.

The deadline to register a claim and report your harvest production is November 15. Claims received after this will be subject to a 25 per cent reduction in payment to a maximum of $1,000; claims made after December 31 will not be accepted.

When registering a claim, please have your production information available to help the claims process move forward. Production information is used in the establishment of future coverage levels. To ensure your coverage is not affected, please report harvested production as soon as possible.

The Production Declaration form you received in the mail also contains fields to report fertilizer, herbicide and fungicide/insecticide information. SCIC compiles this information into a report of personalized and historical agronomic data that is sent back to you in the new year, prior to insurance selection in March. We encourage you to take full advantage of this service by completing the form in full.

Adjusting a claim

Unless you are eligible for a claim by declaration, an adjuster will visit your farm. Please accompany the adjuster while the inspection is completed. The adjuster will gather data on all harvested production, inspect acres, diagram and identify your yard and bin locations as well as measure and/or inspect all bins or storage facilities.

The adjuster will also take samples of all new grain in storage. In addition to production, SCIC will consider quality when determining crop loss. When the crop's grade falls below SCIC's standard grade, additional compensation may be available. SCIC may grade the samples themselves or send to a third-party for analysis.

Adjusters will report all their findings. If you are in agreement with the results of the inspection, please sign the claim form. If you do not agree, please inform the adjuster, and the CSO manager or field supervisor will contact you to discuss your concerns. They will work with you to determine the best course of action to finalize the claim. If you wish to defer your payment, please inform the adjuster at this time.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Contact your local Crop Insurance office;
- Call 1-888-935-0000; or
- Visit www.saskcropinsurance.com.

Growing Forward

Farm Business Development Initiative (FBDI) important funding deadlines

by Brenda Stefanson, PAg
Regional Farm Business Management Specialist, Watrous
Regional Services Branch

The Farm Business Development Initiative (FBDI) and the Farm Business Development Initiative for Young Farmers (YFBDI) is funded through a five-year Federal/Provincial/Territorial Agreement called Growing Forward.

To ensure that you receive reimbursement for your eligible expenses under the initiative, please review the following deadlines:

- New applications or revisions to existing applications must be in place before **December 31, 2012;**
- If you are using consulting services, please work with your consultant to obtain a final written report by **January 31, 2013**;
- All training/learning activities must be completed by **February 28, 2013**;
- All requests for payments should be submitted immediately following these dates and must be received no later than **March 31, 2013**.

Please contact your Regional Farm Business Management Specialist as soon as possible if you have any questions regarding an application under the program.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Visit www.agriculture.gov.sk.ca; or
- Phone the Agriculture Knowledge Centre at 1-866-457-2377.

INTERNATIONAL MARKET DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

by Stephen Norgate
Investment Attraction Specialist
Policy Branch

Included as part of the 2012-13 Ministry of Agriculture budget, was $1 million in funding to support international business development activities. On June 19, 2012, Agriculture Minister Lyle Stewart announced the new International Market Development Program at Canada's Farm Progress Show. The program will help the agriculture industry establish, maintain and expand international market presence, increase the number and value of trade missions coming into Saskatchewan, and open, protect and expand market access for Saskatchewan.

The program is intended to support marketing activities that will attract new buyers and maintain existing markets in a highly competitive environment. It also provides support for trade advocacy efforts aimed at addressing market access concerns faced by Saskatchewan exporters.

Funding will be provided for incremental or new market development activities targeted at international markets. Applicants can access funding for eligible expenses including travel to international trade shows or export missions, bringing interested buyers to Saskatchewan, production of marketing material, advertising and translation services. The program is open to Saskatchewan businesses, industry organizations and agricultural shows. Approved applicants can receive funding for up to 50 per cent of eligible costs, to a maximum of $100,000 per applicant. Activities will be funded on a first-come, first-served basis. All projects must be pre-approved. Applications must be submitted by February 1, 2013, and projects must be complete by March 15, 2013.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Call (306) 787-8516; or
- Email [redacted].

Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture

Land for Sale by Tender

COMPLETED TENDERS AND FIVE PER CENT DEPOSIT MUST BE RECEIVED AT THE MINISTRY REGIONAL OFFICE, AS LISTED BELOW, BY 12:00 NOON NOVEMBER 15, 2012

Additional tender forms may be obtained from Ministry of Agriculture Regional offices, Rural Municipality offices, or online at www.agriculture.gov.sk.ca.

Conditions of Tender

1. Tenders must clearly indicate the land that is being bid on and the amount being bid. Tender forms are available for this purpose. Tenders must be enclosed in a sealed envelope and mailed or delivered to the appropriate Regional office as shown below. The envelope should be clearly marked "Land Tender."
2. Tender bidders are responsible for meeting any requirements of Part VI of *The Saskatchewan Farm Security Act*.
3. A certified cheque, money order or bank draft, payable to the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture for five per cent of the total tender, must accompany the tender. Tenders submitted without certified funds will not be considered.
4. In addition to the highest bid for any individual parcel, the Ministry of Agriculture will consider bids that provide the highest aggregate price for any combination of parcels.
5. The Ministry of Agriculture reserves the right to reject any bid. Where the highest bid is rejected, the bidder may be provided with an opportunity to meet the upset price.
6. An agreement for sale and transfer will be prepared in the name of the successful bidder. The spouse of the successful bidder can be added to the agreement for sale at time of preparation upon receipt of a written request.
7. The successful bidder has 30 days from the effective date of the agreement for sale to provide the balance in cash and to complete the purchase. The deposit will be forfeited if the successful bidder does not finalize the agreement for sale.
8. All fees to register title with the Information Services Corporation are the responsibility of the purchaser and are in addition to the bid price.
9. All lands, together with any fixtures and improvements, are sold "as is." The bidder is solely responsible to determine the value and condition of land being sold, value and condition of improvements, land quality, land use, environmental condition and any other information pertaining to tendered land.
10. The Ministry of Agriculture may withhold or withdraw any land from sale at any time prior to the delivery of a signed agreement for sale.
11. Where land is not sold, land may be listed on the Ministry's Catalogue Sale until the land is readvertised in subsequent tender sales or lease postings. Sale of land from the catalogue is on a "first-come, first-served" basis at the minimum value announced at the tender opening.

FOR LAND IN THE RMS LISTED BELOW, CONTACT THE DESIGNATED MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE REGIONAL OFFICE.

RMs 100,167, 228
Mail or deliver tenders to:
LANDS BRANCH
SWIFT CURRENT REGIONAL OFFICE
BOX 5000, 350 CHEADLE ST. WEST
SWIFT CURRENT SK S9H 4G3

RM 42
Mail or deliver tenders to:
LANDS BRANCH
WEYBURN REGIONAL OFFICE
BOX 2003, 110 SOURIS AVE.
CITY CENTRE MALL
WEYBURN SK S4H 2Z9

RMs 153, 241, 243, 250, 275, 276, 277, 301, 304, 334, 335, 366, 367, 394, 395, 401, 426, 430, 463, 487, 488, 520
Mail or deliver tenders to:
LANDS BRANCH
TISDALE REGIONAL OFFICE
BOX 1480, 1105 - 99th ST.
TISDALE SK S0E 1T0

RMs 284, 467, 496, 555, 588
Mail or deliver tenders to:
LANDS BRANCH
NORTH BATTLEFORD REGIONAL OFFICE
1192 - 102nd ST.
NORTH BATTLEFORD SK S9A 1E9

RM	Land Desc	Acres	Codes	Est Mkt
	VALERIE TOWNSEND-FRASER ***Box 2003, 110 Souris Avenue*** ***WEYBURN SK S4H 2Z9*** ***(306) 848-2378***			
42	NE-11-05-27-2 *New fence, dugout $6300*	159	F,W	$53,800
	KAREN SMITH ***BOX 1480, 1105-99TH STREET*** ***TISDALE SK S0E 1T0*** ***(306)878-8897***			
153	NW-17-16-03-2	160	G,A	$51,100
153	[NW-19-16-03-2 SW-19-16-03-2]	199	G,W	$76,300
241	SE-18-25-30-1	160	C	$41,600
243	NW-23-25-01-2	160	C	$84,000
243	SE-6-27-01-2	160	C	$120,000
243	[NE-34-27-01-2 NW-34-27-01-2]	310	H	$139,000
250	NE-11-25-24-2	119		$300,000
276	NW-29-31-10-2	56	C,A	$12,500
277	SE-29-29-13-2	160	C	$51,100

RM	Land Desc	Acres	Codes	Est Mkt
	BRENT MCINNIS ***BOX 5000, 350 CHEADLE STREET W*** ***SWIFT CURRENT SK S9H 4G3*** ***(306)778-8295***			
100	SE-10-10-23-2	160	F,W,A,G	$48,000
	DAVE JUNK ***BOX 1480, 1105-99TH STREET*** ***TISDALE SK S0E 1T0*** ***(306)878-8820***			
275	NE-16-28-09-2	158	H	$28,800
301	NE-16-33-31-1	160	F,G,H,W	$43,700
301	[SW-13-33-31-1 SE-14-33-31-1]	260	G,A	$30,000
301	NE-20-33-31-1	158	C	$64,700
304	SE-30-33-06-2	160	C	$47,600
304	SW-30-33-06-2 *LSD's 5 & 6 (north 80 acres)*	80	C	$33,000
334	NW-9-38-05-2	160	G,T	$50,000
334	NE-20-34-06-2	158	C	$39,700
334	SW-15-37-06-2	159	F,G,W	$34,100

MORE LAND LISTINGS ON NEXT PAGE

CODES: A - Access Limitation, B - Buildings, C - Cultivation, F - Fencing, G - Grazing, GS - Grain Storage, H - Hay, LF - Livestock Facilities, P - Power, S - CP/Survey Correction, T - Timber Included in Valuation, W - Water, Y - Yardsite. [ ] Denotes - "to be sold as a unit"

RM	Land Desc	Acres	Codes	Est Mkt
334	[NE-29-37-04-2 SE-29-37-04-2 SE-32-37-04-2]	480	G	$94,600
335	SE-15-37-07-2	58	G	$110,000
335	NE-15-37-09-2	160	H	$43,200
335	SE-15-37-09-2	160	F,G	$38,300
366	SE-29-37-10-2	159	F,G,T,W	$36,800
367	NE-29-37-13-2	155	C,F,G	$36,700
394	SW-34-43-02-2	160	F,G	$21,700
394	[NW-21-45-02-2 SE-21-45-02-2]	267	F,G,H	$64,000
394	SE-27-45-02-2	160	G	$32,000
394	[NW-19-45-04-2 SW-30-45-04-2]	317	A,G,T	$72,300
395	NE-6-44-07-2	159	C,F,G,H	$61,600
426	[NE-2-44-11-2 NW-2-44-11-2 SE-11-44-11-2 SW-11-44-11-2 SW-12-44-11-2]	798	F,G,W	$147,200

TIM FEIST
BOX 1480, 1105-99TH STREET
TISDALE SK S0E 1T0
(306)862-1789

401	NE-29-43-25-2	151	G,F	$68,700
430	SW-10-43-22-2	160	G,F	$42,700
463	NW-25-47-01-3	160	G,T	$70,900
486	NE-35-53-10-2	142	H	$60,800
486	SE-30-52-11-2	160	C	$58,700
486	[NE-10-50-09-2 NW-10-50-09-2 SE-10-50-09-2 SW-10-50-09-2 NW-15-50-09-2 SE-15-50-09-2 SW-15-50-09-2]	892	G,F,W	$350,400
487	NW-13-49-18-2 *Land above the SaskPower take line only*	122	H	$52,600
488	SE-20-51-17-2	129	C	$70,800
488	SW-25-53-17-2	160	H	$66,100
520	[NE-7-52-24-2 NW-7-52-24-2 SE-7-52-24-2 SW-7-52-24-2 SW-18-52-24-2 SE-12-52-25-2]	963	G,F,W	$325,130

RM	Land Desc	Acres	Codes	Est Mkt
520	[NE-1-54-25-2 NW-1-54-25-2 SW-1-54-25-2 NE-2-54-25-2 NE-11-54-25-2 SE-11-54-25-2 NE-12-54-25-2 NW-12-54-25-2 SE-12-54-25-2 SW-12-54-25-2 SE-13-54-25-2 SW-13-54-25-2]	1,916	G,F,W	$579,300

DON FONTAINE
1192-102ND STREET
NORTH BATTLEFORD SK S9A 1E9
(306)933-5682

284	NW-4-30-07-3 *Non-irrigable. Purchaser saves harmless the Crown from any and all damages that occurred or may occur as a result of the operation of the South Saskatchewan River Irrigation Project*	160	H	$58,200

DAVE SHORTT
1192-102ND STREET
NORTH BATTLEFORD SK S9A 1E9
(306)446-7463

467	NE-22-46-15-3	160	G	$38,900
588	SE-17-59-14-3 *Access at developers expense*	160	C,G	$40,900
588	SW-17-59-14-3 *Access at developers expense*	142	C,G	$48,200
588	SW-15-60-20-3 *Power runs through quarter*	160	H	$72,600
588	[NE-29-58-14-3 SE-32-58-14-3] *Access at developers expense*	320	C,G	$80,800

PATRICA JOHNSON
1192-102ND STREET
NORTH BATTLEFORD SK S9A 1E9
(306)446-7630

496	SE-31-50-08-3	159	G,A	$39,000
555	SE-24-56-07-3	160	G,A	$58,400

JESSICA WILLIAMS
BOX 5000, 350 CHEADLE STREET W
SWIFT CURRENT SK S9H 4G3
(306)778-8292

167	[NE-9-17-14-3 SW-15-17-14-3 SE-16-17-14-3] *W is shallow well and windmill. Requires some fencing*	480	F,G,W	$71,600
228	NW-12-23-15-3 *Requires some fencing - Chem fallow in 2012*	160	C,G,F	$77,800

CODES: A - Access Limitation, B - Buildings, C - Cultivation, F - Fencing, G - Grazing, GS - Grain Storage, H - Hay, LF - Livestock Facilities, P - Power, S - CP/Survey Correction, T - Timber Included In Valuation, W - Water, Y - Yardsite.
[ ] Denotes - "to be sold as a unit"

Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture

TENDER TO PURCHASE PROVINCIAL LAND

Name in full (no initials) _____ Phone Number _____

Complete mailing address _____

I hereby submit a tender on the following land:

RM#	Tender Quarter Section or Advised Unit	Tender
_____	_____	$ _____
_____	_____	$ _____
_____	_____	$ _____
_____	_____	$ _____

Enclosed is a certified cheque, money order or bank draft for $ _____ representing a deposit of five per cent (5%) of my total tender.

My G.S.T. Registration Number is _____
(Individuals who do not have a G.S.T. Registration Number will be required to pay G.S.T. on the purchase)

I hereby submit the above tender to purchase provincial land, subject to the conditions listed in the tender ad, which I have read and understand.

_____ _____
Date Signature

EVENTS CALENDAR

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	PHONE	INTERNET
November 7 - 10, 2012	Yorkton Harvest Showdown	Yorkton Exhibition Association Yorkton, SK	1-306-783-4800	www.yorktonexhibition.com
November 7 - 10, 2012	Saskatoon Fall Fair	Prairieland Park, Saskatoon, SK	1-306-931-7149	www.saskatoonex.com
November 15, 2012	Deadline to submit a Fall Seeded Acreage Report for producers with winterkill coverage on fall-seeded acres.	Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation	1-888-935-0000	www.saskcropinsurance.com
November 19 - 24, 2012	Canadian Western Agribition	Evraz Place, Regina, Saskatchewan	1-306-565-0565	www.agribition.com
December 7, 2012	Third Annual Heifer Development Workshop	Alameda, SK	1-866-457-2377	www.agriculture.gov.sk.ca
December 8, 2012	Third Annual Heifer Development Workshop	Maple Creek, SK	1-866-457-2377	www.agriculture.gov.sk.ca

Agribition is for everyone

The 2012 Canadian Western Agribition runs from November 19-24 at Evraz Place in Regina, SK. This premium agriculture show provides an exciting, vibrant atmosphere that builds on Saskatchewan's growth in agriculture. Visitors to Agribition will see why the show, now in its 42nd year, is regarded as one of the best and most sought-after marketplaces in the world. New this year is the Grain Expo, with speakers presenting on topics such as new seeding technologies and grain marketing strategies.

The Ministry of Agriculture is proud to once again be a platinum sponsor of CWA and we invite you to come visit one of our booths to answer any questions you have about the programs and services we offer. Visit our main display at booth 877 in the Credit Union Eventplex, and visit Saskatchewan Crop Insurance (SCIC)'s booth, also in the Credit Union Eventplex at 661 and 662. SCIC staff are available to assist producers with any questions they may have regarding AgriStability, Crop Insurance or the Wildlife Damage Compensation Program.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Visit www.agribition.com.

Did you know RFID tags are species specific?

Federal legislation requires sheep, bison and cattle to be tagged with an approved Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) tag prior to moving from their current location or leaving their farm of origin. This legislation also requires producers to use only species' specific tags.

When a tag is scanned at a farm, feedlot, a slaughter facility, or auction market the reader "thinks" the animal tagged with that tag is the species represented by the range of numbers associated with that tag. In the event Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) needs to conduct a traceback investigation, it is essential the tags read properly identify the species of animal tagged.

Bison RFID tag
Must be purchased through Canadian Bison Association.
Number range: 300000000 to 303999999
Photo source: CFIA

Sheep RFID tags
Must be purchased through the Saskatchewan Sheep Development Board.
Number range: 300000000 to 303999999
Photo source: Canadian Sheep Federation

Beef Cattle RFID tags
An example of one of eight tags available through selected retailers including many veterinary clinics.
Number range: 110000000 to 299999999
Photo source: Canadian Cattle Identification Agency

Saskatchewan Agriculture